

Thursday March 4.

Dear Ab.

Papa remarked a little bit ago on writing the above date that Hays had just a year more. He is now beginning to get up an excitement over the Presidential candidate that is to be, and I suppose it will grow hotter and hotter to the end. Were you interested in the young theologian's letter that I sent you? It was most too kind of his mother to send out his letters written to his brother with no idea that any one else would see them. You may send or take Hannah's letter down to Aunt Jennie but I guess I would not Edwin's.

4) weather is improving
Papa seems over his.
He makes less of a cold
than anybody I know
of.

I did not begin to
write because I had any
thing to say, and Joe
is in a hurry to be off
see Grand Bye.

Yours aff. Walter

Tell me how Rhoda's
affairs are getting on.

I send your Aunt Genovis's letter. You may have seen her and so there be no news in it, but I send it for the chance.

I am busier as ever but my work is of a different kind. I am at work at my rag carpet. I thought I better get that out of the way before cleaning house as then the closets would be relieved, and besides, though sewing rag carpet is one of the most tedious, and stupefying, of employments, it is sedentary and gave me the rest that I wanted to take. Imagine me these days stripping of up garments into narrow bits and sewing those bits

together by the hour as, ³ /
I sit here "all by my lone self."

Gae is making extensive
improvements out in the
garden, whenever he has time
and is gradually bringing
order out of disorder.

He is devoting his evenings
to Earl's Philology and I
see him taking notes.

I'm kinder sorry for the
boy. I think it's stupid for
him here with just us old
folks. It's lucky he's fond
of pets. It seems to be a great
comfort to him to have Tom
or Ebenezer in his lap as he
sits and reads, and it is
certainly a comfort to them.
Did I tell ^{you} I sent tooth powder
as requested, and did you
write.

My cold is gradually
disappearing, and the



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March. 23/80

Miss M. W. Shinn
Berkeley
Cal^a